With regard to the PDS, the Committee has endorsed an immediate shift to a unified PDS, which in its view, would bring back many of the poor and moderately poor who have been excluded from the BPL category. The unified system should be accompanied by a uniform CIP for all consumers at Rs 4.50 per kg of wheat and Rs 6 per kg of rice to be accompanied by a transfer of 35 paisa per kg of grain offtake as cash incentive to State Governments, conditional on lifting and accounting. This should be till stocks reduce sufficiently, after which the CIP should be increased towards acquisition cost.

The Committee has further recommended that the allocation under present Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojna scheme should be doubled and the expansion of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana be initiated.

Inspection of the godowns of FCI

†245. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had made a surprise inspection of the godowns of the Food Corporation of India situated in Delhi during the third week of July;

(b) if so, the lapses found in the inspection; and

(c) the persons held responsible for the lapses and the irregularities found in these godowns and the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir. Surprise inspection of Mayapuri depot of FCI was conducted on 27th July, 2002.

(b) and (c) No irregularity was finally established.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.